

EH-0141 US

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas Lizzi

Date: November 29, 2006

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the application of: Liu et al.	)	GROUP ART UNIT: Unknown
Serial No.: 10/580,932	)	Examiner: Unknown
Filed: May 30, 2006	)	
For: Processes for Sintering Aluminum and Aluminum Alloys	)	Date: November 29, 2006

Commissioner For Patents  
P.O.Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.51, 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, the art that is identified on the attached form PTO/SB/08B is being disclosed with regard to the above-identified application. Copies of all non-U.S. patents and non-U.S. patent application publications are enclosed herewith in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98. No significance is meant to be given to any markings that may be found on the enclosed copies. The art that is identified is not necessarily analogous art. Applicants hereby request the Examiner to review and make an independent evaluation of the art. Applicants also hereby respectfully request that an initialed copy of the PTO/SB/08B be returned to the undersigned.

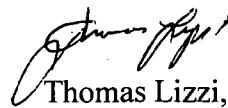
Applicant believes from a consultation of the USPTO Private Pair system that this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within the time period specified in 37 C.F.R.1.97 (b), and therefore believes that no filing fee is required. In the case that Applicant is mistaken in this belief, Applicant requests the opportunity to refile the instant document with the appropriate fee without any loss of right.

Two foreign language patent applications are included among the disclosed art. One is Japan Patent Application No. 06-057363, which was published on March 1, 1994. It is believed that the relevance of this document is that it teaches the sintering aluminum magnesium alloy powder in a nitrogen atmosphere that has a partial pressure of 0.01 atmosphere (1.01 kpa) or less water vapor. The powder, however, has been cold compacted prior to sintering, in contradistinction to the claimed invention of the instant application. A translation of the abstract is provided.

The other foreign language patent application is Japan Patent Application No. 06-033164, which was published on March 1, 1994. It is believed that the relevance of this document is that it teaches the heating of an aluminum powder that contains magnesium in a nitrogen atmosphere in the temperature range of 500 °C to 600 °C. However, the powder is hot compacted. A translation of the abstract is provided as is a machine-language translation of the entire document.

Applicants believe that its invention as described and claimed in the instant application is neither taught nor suggested by the disclosed art. Accordingly, Applicant's invention is believed to be patentable over this art.

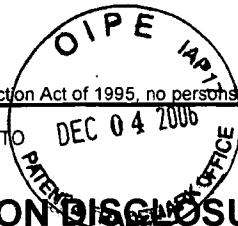
Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Lizzi, Esq.  
Reg. No. 35,252  
IP & Internet Law North, LLC  
P.O. Box 38  
Zelienople, PA 16063

Phone & Fax: (724) 452-4414  
Email: [tlizzi@ipandinternetlawnorth.com](mailto:tlizzi@ipandinternetlawnorth.com)

November 29, 2006



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Substitute for form 1449/PTO DEC 14 2003

DEC 04 2005

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

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Sheet 1 of 2

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/580,932
Filing Date	May 30, 2006
First Named Inventor	Jianxin Liu
Art Unit	Unknown 1793
Examiner Name	Unknown N. Mai
Attorney Docket Number	ELU-0411

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
/n.m./		JP 06-033164	02-08-1994	Toyota Central Res & Dev	Abstract	
/n.m./		JP 06-057363	03-01-1994	Sumitomo Electric Ind Ltd	Abstract	

Examiner Signature	/Ngoclan Mai/	Date Considered	09/15/2008
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**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND**

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## **NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Signature	/Ngoclan Mai/	Date Considered	09/15/2008
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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